

# Weekly National Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON: THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1864.

### Weekly National Intelligencer.

BY GALES & SEATON. JAMES C. WELLING, ASSOCIATE EDITOR. The subscription price of this paper for a year is Two DoLLARS, payable in advance.

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THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1864.

THE FUTURE.

In referring, on the 3d of March last, to the several candidates who had then been named for the Presidency of the United States in the preliminary discussions that had already taken place under this head, in advance of the assembling of the National Convention of any party, we undertook to show how far the identity of views which Gen. McCLEL-LAN and President LINCOLN held in common should teach the adherents of each to practise inciteration in discussing the points of difference between them. At the same time we added that we thought we should be able to state the grounds on which this duty might be commended to men of conservative opinions if President Lincoln should be the candidate of the Republican party.

It-seemed to us then, as it seemed to us during the late canvass, and seems to us none the less at the present time, that if candor and moderation are at all times virtues which should be cultivated and practised in political discussions, they are specially incumbent on all good citizens in a period of civil war and distraction. When the times are out of joint it should be the aim of the Christian patriot to have his mind "move in Charity, rest in Providence, and turn on the poles of Truth." Crimination and recrimination, unscemly at the best, then become fraught with added dangers to the peace as well as dignity of the State, because they tend to fan the flames of political phrenzy, and thus to destroy the conditions of calm and sober judgment on topics of the first importance.

Imbaed with these views of public duty, we took no part, as our readers are aware, in initiating or in stimulating any movements of a political character in the interest of one party or another. As chroniclers of the times through which we were passing we contented ourselves with merely recording these political developments as they emerged into public view, that our readers might be in a condition to know the tendencies of opinion and the elements of difference that seemed destined to give shape and color to the approaching Presidential canvass.

It was not until the issues of the contest were It was not until the issues of the contest were clearly defined in the persons of the candidates severally presented for the consideration of the American people that we accepted the political discussions rendered necessary by the fact of the discussions rendered necessary by the fact of the impending election. And, in our choice of candlibet throughout all the Union. . . . . It would not be the fault of the Administration if they did not establish an era of good feeling. The reflection of the President had placed him beyond the pale of human envy political differences or discriminations, by the simple consideration of the principles which, as would soon learn to see him, as the speaker and the audiembodied in the men respectively named for the Presidency, seemed to us most directly conducive to the restoration of the Union under the Constitution. But, in thus choosing what seemed to us the better part for the country, we did not renounce the hope we had previously expressed to the effect that, if re-elected, President Lincoln might disappoint our own apprehensions and those of his more systematic opponents. The hopes we had expressed, in advance of his nomination, were as fol-

"We have said that the duty of practising moderation may be commended to men of conservative views in treating the candidacy of either President Lincoln or Mr. Chase, and having aircady stated the grounds of this obligation as incumbent upon the friends of all candidates in the treatment of political competitors, we proceed to show the grounds on which this duty may be enforced on the

opponents of either the President or his Secretary.

"We may say, then, that should President Lincoln be reelected we have a right to presume that he would be
much more conservative in his second term than he has proved to be in that which is now expiring. The whole country knows that the political instincts and predilections country knows that the political instincts and predilections of Mr. Lincoln all incline him to conservatism. This was proved by the policy which he first adopted when left free to initiate measures without extraneous pressure to disturb his original convictions of duty, and it is equally proved by the persistency and violence of the pressure which it required to shake him from the fixed resolve with which he entered on the war. In his second term he would be more exempt from such pressure, and from the temptation of yielding to it.

"It may be maked what hopes could persons of conservative ideas found on Mr. Chase's elevation to the Presidency 1. We answer, the hopes that may be always founded on that medification of theoretical opinions which is sure to ensue in the practical administration of the Government in the bands of a statesman. Those who dissent most widely from some of the abstract opinions of Mr. Chase

to ensue in the practical administration of the Government in the hands of a statesman. Those who dissent most widely from some of the abstract opinions of Mr. Chase will not deny to him the possession of rare administrative capacities, and these cannot exist without practical discretion in the application of abstract principles to concrete problems of State. His administration, we doubt not, would be less 'radical,' is fact, than the apprehensions of his opponents would make it, and, in se for as it might be 'radical' at all, would at least be consistent, intelligent, and sincere in its 'radicalism'. We need not say that we use this term as simply descriptive of extrain well-known opinions, and not at all sea term of political reproduct and just as little need we say that, on theoretical grounds, we discent from what we understand to be the peouliar policy advocated by some of the friends of the distinguished Scarciary of the Treasury, but we should be corry to any rany differences of opinion on this score to diminish our sendibility to his talents, our respect for the amoerity with which he holds his principles, or our confidence in the windom with which he would know how to apply them if he is the statesman we take him to be.

them if he is the statesman we take him to be.
"And, in view of these considerations, we think we have "And, in view of these considerations, we think we have stated good grounds on which men of conservative opinions may, in any event, hope for a better administration of the Government during the next iour years than we have had since the accession of Mr. Lincoln to the Presidential chair, and this whether he shall be re-elected, or whether he shall be succeeded by a rival emanating from his own party or by one emanating from a different political organization."

of the opinions we had deliberately formed with regard to the principles and tendencies which of human infallibility. regard to the principles and tendencies which seemed to us most eligible on grounds of expediency and constitutional law, we were not, in any event, prepared to despair of the Republic, what, ever might be the result of the Presidential election that has just terminated. If, in the heats and

preoccupations of the political strife engendered by the canvass, we may have seemed in the eyes of any reader to lose eight of these paramount grounds of patriotic obligation, we take this occasion to reiterate them, and to renew the expression of our hope that, in fulfilling the just expectations of his political supporters, the President will, during his future administration of the Government, disap-

point the apprehensions of his political opponents. We are the more encouraged to cherish and express this hope by the nature of the President's avowals since he has been so triumphantly reelected by the favor of his countrymen. It was in reply to congratulations on the result of the election that, on the 10th instant, he spoke as follows :

"The rebellion continues; and now that the election over, may not all, having a dominon interest, reunite in common effort to save our common country? For my own part, I have strives, and shall continue to strive, to avoid placing any obstacle in the way. So long as I have been here, I have not willingly planted a thorn in any man's

bosom:

"White I am deeply sensible to the high compliment of a re-election, and duly grateful, as I trust, to Almighty God for having directed my countrymen to a right conclusion, as I think, for their own good, it adds rething to my astisfaction that any other man may be disappointed or pained by the result. May I sek those who have not differed the sense that man this same thing to pay the sense that the sense this same thinks the sense that the sense this sense this sense this sense this sense this sense the sense this oith me to join with me in this same spirit towards thus the have ?"

And on the 17th instant, in replying to the felicitations of a deputation from the State of Maryland, Mr. Lincoln held the following language: "He would not attempt to conceal from them the fact that he was gratified at the results of the Presidential elec-tion; and he would assure them that he had kept as near as he could to the exercise of his best judgment for the promotion of the interests of the whole country; and now promotion of the interests of the whole country; and now to have the seal of approbation marked on the course he had pursued was exceedingly gratifying to his feelings. He might go further and say that, in as large preportion as any other man, his pleasure consisted in the belief that the policy he had pursued would be the best and the only one that could save the country. He had ead before, and would now repeat, that he induged in no feeling of triumph over any one who thought or acted differently from himself. He had no such feeling towards any living man.

The most embittered opponent of the President will not deny that such expressions do honor to his heart, and they should go far to disarm political defeat of its sting in the breast of the van quished. And we do not hesitate to say, for our selves, that we shall accept these declarations of the President in the same sincerity in which we believe them to be made, and shall be prepared to judge his future administration of the Government simply by his acts, without any other predetermination than that of cordially co-operating in all measures which shall seem to us judicious and proper, without seeking to find in any of them the grounds of factious opposition.

The distinguished Premier of the Administration, in replying to the congratulations of his political friends on the 10th instant, was frank to say that in the debates of the canvass they may have done something less than justice to the patriotism of their political opponents. To this effect he spoke as follows:

honest and faithful. Thereafter all motive of detraction of him would cease to exist, and Abraham Lincoln would take his place with Washington, Jefferson, and Adams, among the benefactors of his country and the human

The candor of Mr. Seward should be met with equal candor by the friends of Gen. McClellan. It may be that the latter have, "all things conidered," judged Mr. Lincoln and his party rather harshly in some respects." At all events let it be no fault of theirs, as Mr. Seward says it shall be no fault of the Administration, if an " cra of good feeling" is not re-established. The times are propitious to such a desirable consummation. Party names have lost their power to charm or to repel. As has been well said by another : " Parties may retain their name, for the sake of the prestige, just as the makers of Cologne water all call themselves Jean Maria Farina; but the identity will be gone. They may even show some vitality. like a snake that has lost its head; but they are none the less certainly dead, and destined soon to be absorbed into other more living bodies. Parties cannot, any more than families, subsist on their mere traditions; they must connect themselves with the realities of the day, with the actual life of the time and place, and be formed and take their color as well as their inspiration from the controlling necessities of the nation. With every radical revolution in the situation of the country there must be inevitably a no less radical revolution in the relations of opinion; and the parties which represent that opinion will undergo a corresponding modification.

They who undertake to oppose the Administration merely because it has not been elevated to power by their votes will soon surely find that they do not "understand their epoch." And they who give to the Administration an "unquestioning support" will just as surely discover that their maxims of partisauship belong to an age that has passed in the history of the country. The issues of the times are too momentous and far-resoling to admit of such narrow-minded views in the one direction or in the other. It should be the aim of all to co-operate with the Administration in its legitimate efforts for the preservation of the Government and the restoration of the Union, remembering that wisdom and virtue are the exclusive possession of no party, and that therefore, if no party is to be implicitly trusted, so none is entitled It will thus be seen that, without foregoing any to an exclusive right of censorship, since the one case equally with the other implies the assumption

GEN, SHERMAN'S GREAT EXPEDITION. IMPORTANT INTELLIGENCE

Manta and Rome Partially Destroyed .- Sher man Going to Savannah or Charleston.

At length we have in the Westers journals which came b hand yesterday what appears to be reliable intelligence of the movements of Gen. Sherman-at least the corroborative reports which appear in various journals published at different points are calculated to inspire confidence in

By these accounts it seems that the army of General Sherman commenced moving from Atlanta twelve days age-the first column having taken its departure on the 9th instant, by the Macon road, and intending to pass through Milledgeville, and the second column leaving on the 19th, taking the direct road for Augusta, which it expected to reach in fourteen days. The ultimate destination of this army is said to be either Savannah, Charleston, or Beaufort. The plans of its gallant leader may, however, be changed. Prior to taking up the line of march, the foundries, factories, barracks, and other public buildngs in Atlanta and at Rome were destroyed, and also the silroads, so as to render those places untenable to the

The latest and most intelligible account we have of this bold and hazardous enterprise is contained in a Nashville cepatch of the 15th instant-published in the Cincinnat Times of Thursday last-in which the writer presents such an outline of the movement as he supposes will not interfere with any of Gen. Sherman's plane. We extract the

Sherman has statted on an important expedition from Atlanta, but the conjectures which have been formed reative to its character and destination have been so vario that but little is really known concerning it. It should have been kept entirely secret, but there are other leaks than new paper correspondents through which almost every thing reaches the enemy in a remarkably brief

"The samy which left Atlanta consisted of the follow ne troops :

Fornteenth Corps..... 9,000 Fortreeith Corps. 10,000
Severteenth Corps. 9,000
Twentieth Corps. 9,000
Cayalry. 10,000

The cavairy are well mounted, the best horses formerly "The cavalry are well mounted, the best horses for herly in this section having been sent them.

"Sherman has been chiefly occupying his time in laying in a full supply of hard bread and beef cattle, and he has with him of the fermer sixty days full rations, and several thousand head of cattle. For all things else he will depend on the country over which he is to pass. His animals can subsist well. Corn and sweet potatoes are abundant. During the week ending on the 5th instant he gathered in 1.760 wegon loads of corn, 436 loads of sweet potatoes, and a few horses, without sending his foreging parties more than thirty miles from Atlanta. He could manage to live for six months without communicating nanage to live for six months without communicating nce w th the North. In reference to his cavalry be fee ertain of his ability to obtain horses enough to keep grood is original stock, and perhaps he may be able to mount

"You have heard a great deal about the proposed de-struction of Atlanta &c. But that is all 'bosh' Sher-man's motto is: 'Remove all obstacles to success; permit no wanton destruction of life or property; and it is upon this that he has recently acted. He has rendered Atlanta untenable; has destroyed such buildings as could have been made valuable to the enemy, but has harmed no

"A portion of the army left Atlanta on the morning the 9th, and followed the railroad to Macon, destroying it as it proceeds; the column will take Milledgeville in its way, and it is probable that the cavalry will attempt to re-

lease the Union prisoners.
"The second column started on Saturday morning last, the 12th,) and goes direct to Augusts, the chief manufacturing point of the Confederacy, and one in which nearly all the powder used by the Southern army is made. This will be reached in about twelve or fourteen days.

At this point the whole army will conceptrate, and then move on one of three points as Sterman shall deem most proper. These are, Savannah, Charleston, or Beaufort; but I know that if nothing occurs to change his present plans he will go to Beaufort. He believes that Savannah, with the railroads through Georgia cut, will be perfectly harmless, and there will be no advantage in holding it. The same may be said of Charleston. Let Sherman adharmless, and there will

they are, would take time, even though not strongly gar-risoned, while the moment the army reaches Beautort it meets supplies in abundance, and ships to transfer it to any

Point it may be made most use ul.

"This I know to be his plan at present. However, it may become necessary to make Augusta a new base, and in that case Eavannah must be captured; but Sherman now believes that he can as easily make one on the sea coast, and in the mean time destroy all the railroads in Georgia and South Carolina so effectually as to render

fortin about thirty-five or forty days.

"Sherman will meet no enemy on the way. The Georgia militia are very harmless, and few in number. There are at Savannah about two thousand troops, beside city inilitia; and in no other part of Georgia are there any men, except cavelry and guerrillas, and these are not numerous. No force can be spared to meet him. Thomas can take care of Hood, and Lee can do nothing but defend himself against Gract and Sheridan.

We shall have no further communications from Sherman; we shall soon hear from him through rebel sources. A few days since he telegraphed a 'good-bye' to his wife, and fold her not to write again till he reached the ocean" stant the following paragraphs, in confirmation of the foreoing, as well as for the additional information they contain:

A gentleman who left Atlanta on Saturday last informs us that the delay in Sherman's movements was caused by the paymasters' paying the troops, which had been en-tirely completed before he left. As he came through

kingston the Fourteenth Corps, which is to bring up the rear of the army, was just moving out of that place. Gen. Sherman's headquarters were at Kingston, and he was expecting to accompany the Fourteenth Corps.

"The General had issued an order to his troops, telling them that they were about to enter upon an important campaign, and that the country through which they were to pass had never been occupied by either army, and that they were expected to subsist of of the country and to take all horses and mules within their reach. These were they were expected to subsist in of the country and to take all horses and mules within their reach. There were many other items of interest concerning intended move-ments which it would not be prudent to publish.

"Sherman's army consists of four spleudid corps—the 14th, in command of Gev. J. ff. C. Davis; the 16th, under Oc-terbaus; the 17th, under Blair; and the 20th, under Slo-

ternauk; the 17th, under Blair; and the 20th, under Slocum. Fifteen thousand cavalry, under Kilpatrick, and a
bilgade of artillery are added, making a total force of between fifty thousand and sixty thousand men, the whole
perfectly equipped, well supplied with war material, and
abused with as much pluck, confidence, and good health
as were ever compacted in any body of troops in the world.

"Our informant left atlants upon the same train with the
paymenters, which was understood to be last train that

ould leave that city, and Atlanta is before this time pretty thoroughly destroyed—that is, all its public buildings, depots, manufactories, &c. rendered worthless. The railronds north and south of that city, and all the surrounding defensive works, have been destroyed. There is to be no turning back, and nothing left behind that might prove raluable to the enemy.

The Journal adds that "Gen. George H. Thomas is at Chattanooga organizing an army to attend to Gen. Hood, and is reported to have sufficient troops at command for an offensive movement whenever it is deemed necessary. Many military men assert that it will be impossible for Hood to escape South again."

In the mean time some of the journals are discussing with evident anxiety the probable success of Gen. Sher man. One of them, presuming that much of the above nows is reliable, thus alludes to the indicated routes of the respective columns, at least as far as Augusta :

"The Macon column started earliest, for it will be no cessary for them to make considerable of a detour. Maco lie southeast of Atlanta seventy five miles in a direct line.

ville, and distant from it about eighty five miles: so that a few batteries planted in uncomfortably close quarters to the whole distance the first column would travel would be our men. The commanding officer where a real column would be our men. the whole distance the first column would travel would be one bundred and ninety miles, the chief places on route besides those mentioned being Jouesboro. Fayette, Griffin, Forsyth, Gordon, Whiting, and Sparta. It should be remembered, however, that this column is most likely to meet with very serious opposition, for, besides the troops of Cobb and Iverson, forces from Charleston and Savannah could all he agent by real to Macon here Share. of Cobb and Iverson, forces from Charleston and Savanman could all be sent by rail to Macon before Sherman
could hope to reach it. This is one reason why we think
the Cincinnati Times' correspondent may be mistaken,
and that Sherman has not divided his army. The second
column, marching along the Augusta road, would have
about one hundred and fifty miles to ge, which could be
made in from ten to fifteen days. Augusta lies almost due
east from Atlanta, and the following important places are
on the route, commencing from Atlanta: Decarar Covington, Rutledge, Mason, Greenboro, Union Pant, Craw
fordsville, Thomson, Dearing, Bergella, and Bellair."

Another journal, in speculating on this movement, says "The country from Augusta to Charleston is barren of produce to sustain an army, and this Sherman well knows, as he was for two or three years stationed at or near Charleston, when he was a Heutenant, before the war. The valthe Savanbah would afford rice and corp, but it would take time to gather them; and assuming that Sherman were to make that town a temporary base, he would not be prepared to move toward the coast in less than from two to four weeks with sufficient rations for his army. Meanwhile Lee might, and no doubt would. tempt some opposition, but there is no reason to believe in sufficient force to prove a serious embarreasment to Sherman's operations. He certainly understands the ground before him, and we may well feel confidence in the achievement of his purpose, be it what it may."

The Cincinnati Gazette talks very hopefully of Sher man's chances for success. It says:

"There will be no army in front of him, and the Georgia multia will be utterly inefficient in obstructing his progress. Hood is powerless, Lee has no men to spare, and if he had it would take a large army to encounter Sherman The field is, therefore, open before him, and the main question is, what can he accomplish? In our opinion he can accomplish the most important results reached in the war. When a column reaches Macon it can destroy, effectually, the only remaining railroad communication between the eastern and western parts of the Confederacy. When a column shall reach Augusta it destroys the largest "There will be no army in front of him, and the Geor-When a column shall reach Augusta it destroys the larges manufactories and depet of military munitions in the South The greatest and almost only powder manufactory is there. When the railroads to Augusta and from Savanual to Charleston are destroyed, there is no further practical military communication between the country east of the federacy by another impassable line. But this is only the beginning. If Sherman can reach Beaufort, after a week's rest he can move right on through North Carolina to Danville, thus making Eastern Virginia a prison and a grave for Lee's army and the rebel Government This, we say, is perfectly practicable with an average share of luck."

When, ten or twelve days ago, it was prematurely stated that Gen. Eherman had abandoned Atlanta and marched for Charleston, and the report reached Richmond, it was received there with marked incredulity and no small amount of ridicule. The Examiner (of the 14th instant) characterized the report as being of that species of news which is usually styled "very important if true," and then proceeded to comment upon it as follows:

"Sherman has lately been reported by New York papers to have abacdoned the pursuit of Hood's raid into Tennessee and returned to Atlanta with four corps of his army, the rest being left to guard Chattanooga and his communications with Nashville. Altogether it may be supposed he cations with Nashville. Altogether it may be supposed he had twenty thousand men with him. If, with this force be has cut himself loose from his communication; and at-tempted to gain Charleston, four hundred miles distant. living on host le country by the way, he has undertaken a most extraordinary affair. It is a far cry to Lochow, but it is a further cry to Charleston.

"There are circumstances which render this news very

"There are circumstances which relies this news very suspicious. Telegraphic communication with Sherman does not exist, and it would be difficult to obtain intelligence from Atlanta. It is also improbable that he should have announced such a design through the New York Journals, even if he had determined upon it. This news is very like a big Yankee lie, invented to cover up the fact that Sherman had really burnt Atlanta for the purpose of con-centrating his whole force against Hood.

"On the other hand, there are considerations which give color to the story To burn Atlanta and retreat would be a deadly blow to Yankee pride; yet Sherman must come idle there while Hood marches into Tennessee suppose that the forces under Thomas, with the additions sent to him from Atlanta, are sufficient to hold Hood in check; and that, all of Hood's army having been withdrawn from the South, he would find nothing to oppose him on the road to Charleston, or to Wilmington, or to a junction with Grant, wherever it may be designed.

value to Branchville, twenty or thirty miles out, and that place is cut off effectually.

Data that the but if it be true that Sherman is now attempting this proplace is cut off effectually.

To capture either Savannah or Charleston, fortified as digious design, we may safely predict that his march will lead him to the Paradise of Fools, and that his magnificent Batancing both considerations we are still incredulous scheme will bereafter be reckoned

With all the grand deeds that never were done, All the great books that never were written, And all the good songs which never were sung."

On the 15th instant, the day succeeding the publicatio the above article, it was authentically sunounced in Richmond that General Sherman had abandoned Atlanta. His departure thence was stated to have been on the them worthless during the war. Un'ess, therefore, unex- 12th instant, corresponding with our accounts from the pected obstacles are met he will reach the ocean at Beau. West, and it is a fact of some significance that on the following day General Early's army, in the Shenandosh Valley, commenced retiring from its position in front of General Sheridan. Whether this movement was induced by the rebel news from Sherman is not known, but it is by no means improbable. Lee has no other army with which to confront Sherman, and it is conjectured that Early will proceed to Lynchburg, thence to Burkesville, where the Danville and Southside roads join, and thence either to Danville or Weldon, if no obstacle be thrown in his way by Grant. The whole Sou h, and especially We copy from the Indianapolis Journal of the 17th in- Georgia and the Carolinas, ie doubtless by this time in a ferment of excitement, and we shall await with anxiety news from that quarter.

THE SITUATION IN MIDDLE TENNESSEE.

Correspondence of the Cincinnati Commercial.

NASHVILLE, NOVEMBER 14, 1864. Amid the complications that have resulted from the late ovements of the rebel army it is difficult to determine clearly the situation of the contending armies now operat ing on the line of the Tennessee river. Your many readers are well aware of the new movement now being executed by that remarkable General who heads the Grand Army of the Mississippi. By his own published letters, and by the general criticism of his proposed plan, the country is fully aware of the general outlines of the grand campaign already begun; and while any thing that I might write could not possibly affect its success, a somewhat intelligent sketch of it might prove of benefit to the cause.

First, the situation in Tennessee, though not as well understood as could be desired, is nevertheless very satisfactory to those responsible for the result.

Gen. Schofield, with the Army of the Ohio, and General Thomas, with such pertions of his own army as were not have been guarding our attenuated line of communications. all under the command of Major Gen. George H. Thomas, Beauregard and Hood, while Gen. Sherman, with other reterans, goes to fulfill his peculiar mission.

Gen. Hood, from his camp to the west of Rome, moved orthward, following substantially the line of the Pennessee the Shoals, to force a passage. His repulse at Decatur by all vigilantly watched, dispatched his entire mounted force near Johnsonville while with his infantry he mangayers in the country between Memphis and the Tennessee river. sonville, and, before reinforcements dispatched by Gen

our men. The commanding officer, whose name is unimportant, thinking the whole force of the rebel army was confronting him, and fearing least the vast amount of supplies there accumulated should fall into their hands, order ed the torch to be applied, and in a short time the flames were wrapped about the huge piles of stores; and, though some were afterward saved, the bulk of them was soon a pile of ashes. This destruction of property I would not be understood to claim was useless or unnecessary, for the true facts have not been made known. Though the stores were destroyed, the place was not esplured, and our forces, reinforced, now hold the post. This place, it must be remembered, is on the Tennessee river, an extensive depot of supplies, about seventy miles from Nashville. A railroad to Nachville has been built, and the great bulk of the stores for the vast army at the front are handled at this depot. The rebel horse-chieftain evidently knew where and when to strike.

From Johnsonville Forrest having failed in his me effort-namely, the capture of the place and stores-moved, and after extensive depredations in the country about rejoined the main army now operating about Corinth, Bolly, Springs, and Memphis. The possession of this country, already so thoroughly devastated by the armies that have marched forward and in retreat over its extended plains, can hardly be considered as a great gain for so much exertion, or as a sufficient reward for the great loss that ere long will be demonstrated to be the result of the transfer of that vast army from Southern Georgia to Middle and West Tennessee.

Gen. Thomas, on the north bank of the Tennessee, has o disposed his forces as to be the master of the situation, and let Hood or Beauregard dispose their armies as they may, they will find ready to confront them a force competent to meet their wants; forces, too, that have confronted them before in some of the most stubbornly contested fields in Northern or Cherokee Georgia.

The Tennessee river from the Ohio to the norther boundaries of Mississippi and Alabama runs nearly south. Near the shoals it makes a grand curve, and thence to Chattanooga runs nearly due east. The extremities of this curve or are of a circle are nearly equi-distant from Pulaski. Hence this affords a fine point for the concentration of the reserves. And here is to be found a large force of Gen. Thomas's army. All the main points of the river are guarded, and from Pulaski a force needed to strengthen any threatened point can easily and speedily be thrown Whether these forces will prove to be any more than forces of observation remains to be proven. If Gen. Beauregard can see a large army marching through the Confederacy, and yet find enough of reward in holding a country worth. less to us, and menacing a line of communications now of little use to Gen. Sherman, he will no doubt be gratified, and find little disposition on the part of Gen. Thomas to

It is to be hoped a few days more will throw sufficient light on the new position to render it more clear and better understood by your many anxious readers. In Gen Sherman's own terse expression, "With Thomas to hold Nashville and watch Hood, and with Gen. Schofield to keep an eye to the open portal to East Tennessee, I have Georgia and South Carolina at my mercy." Gen. Sherman's new campaign has been the source of

all expectation, and the subject of as many speculations as there are newsmongers. That his army is already well on its grand triumphal march is a fact concerning which there is no doubt. Accepting the assertion that Savannah is his objective point, his march would be made through one of the finest and wealthiest portions of the South. The distance is something over two hundred and fifty miles, and in his course are rivers, and the cities of Griffin and Macon. The latter, on the Ocmulgee, is one of the largest cities in Georgia, and is the centre of considerable manufacturing enterprise. These rivers will prove slight obstacles before the skill and energy of that able officer, Col. G. trains. In the country south of Macon are crowded thousands of pegroes from Tennessee and Cherokee Georgia. This country has brought forth a plentiful harvest, and the well filled cribs of corn and bins of wheat, with the yame, porkers, beef, and poultry, will enable him to move with little transportation, and give his army s mobility promising speedy marches and a readiness to strike promptly at unguarded localities. To the right of Macon, seventy miles on a branch railroad, is that acene of so much suffering on the part of our captured braves-Andersonville. Here are still confined numbers of our prisoners, though more have been transferred to Savsunah and Charleston. Gen. Sherman, in his letter to President Yestman, says he may take the stores provided for these men in person. It is to be hoped he will find it a pleasing diversion, and that as he nears the Atlantic coasts his tried veterane may be joined by these suffering captured braves, with hearts filled with joy, and voices giving volume to the shouts of gladness and pages of victory. Their remembrance of past suffering and inhuman treatment would nerve them, it necessity demanded, to strike earnest blows in the deadly strife. The liberating of these prisoners at this time would, in Itself, be an achievement more than a sufficient reward for the powers put forth. That this is an important part of the plan there is no reason to doubt This march through Georgia will develop a new p incl-

ple in our warfare. The enemy have drawn much comfort from the conclusion that, because our lines of communica tion were already so far extended, a large army could not be supplied any further in the interior. But this bold cutting loose from all lines to the rear, this marching forth without any of the long trains that always encumber an army and hamper its progress; this bold trust in the country to give up its stores of food, dispel all these assurances of safety, and demonstrate that even the remotest corners of the Confederacy are open to our conquering armice This proof of vulnerability may open a new light upon the uncompromising, because supposed to be safe; people may persuade even these last ditch men that there is no hope for them, that extermination is only a question of time, and not of possibility. Those who have fled from the avenging hosts of freedom, from far-off Kentucky and Tennessee. and who have settled themselves down to quiet on the shores of the Atlantic, will find that even there the starry banner is to come, borne sloft by the same hands who planted it on the ramparts of Docelson, or high above the clouds on Lookout, or within the massive earthworks about Atlanta.

Savannah is not as capable of defence as most other cities of the South. It is situated on a broad, level plain, and its defences at present are very imperfect. The city is on the Savannah river, eighteen miles from Fort Pulaski, which was built to guard the entrance to the river. This seded by Gen. Sherman, together with the forces that fort has long since been in our possession. The river above the for; and below the city has been thoroughly obstructed. Even should the forces that can be concentrated have been left here to watch the movements of Generals there be able to offer protracted resistance to Gen. Sherman, his supplies could be landed at any point between the fort and obstructions, and the army be fed.

That the country has reason to expect great results from this movement, is true; but that they may not expect iver, attempting, at Decatur and at other points north of too much, and as a result be disappointed when they should rejoice, it would be well to caution them. The object of the forces under Brig. Gen. R. S. Granger is yet fresh in the move is undoubtedly to force the war into the narrow the memory of all. Hood, finding the crossings and fords area of the Atlantic States. Gen Sherman's proposed campaign, in the direction of the present march, promised under Forrest and Wheeler to attempt a crossing at or to be thwarted by Hood's movement to the North, and such grounds, in order to reward a brave and gallant officer, undoubtedly was the hope of Jeff. Davis. Pursuing him until Gen. Thomas could organize a force sufficient to hold | before it was known that Palmer was a witness in the The monuted forces under Forcest succeeded in capturing | him in check, he left him to that chieftan, and without any a few of our gunboats and transports at and about John | opposition is now fulfilling his own ideas of war. If Hood can be forced to follow Shorman, the grand object will be M liedgestille, the capital of Georgia, lies thirty miles north- Schooleid could reach them, succeeded in frightening the attained, and the theatre of war reduced to the Carolina pattle. The attempt to viny dev. or the standar, east of it, and Angusta lies northeast again from Milledge- garrison of the place, by firing rapidly shot and abeli from States. Virginia, and a small portion of Georgia. This terratic, and will re-act upon the authors of the slander.

would enable Gen. Grant to relieve large armies garrisoning vast stretches of country, and by a grand concentration of forces bring such a terrible, close cross-fire on to the rebel armies as would speedily terminate the struggle.

Thus each day develops a new situation, and, smid the strange complications, it is sometimes difficult to glean the true status of our forces. But the people can well afford to exercise patience, for surely no abler hands could guide our different armies, no wiser heads plan the grand movements on our extended theatre of war. Soon good tidings will be sent through the land, for already our banners are daunting in the winds from Georgia's bills, and already the cheers from our victorious armies and the inspiriting strains of music from our thousands of bands are re-echoed through

Nashville is sgain the primary base of an extensive army, and its streets are crowded more than ever with the vast number of army followers. Mej ar Gen. Schoffeld is in the city at present, his army being near about.

## THE DEVASTATION AT ATLANTA

CHATTANOOGA, NOVEMBER 15, 1864. I have just returned from atlants, which by this time is fully evacuated by our troops. There is no necessity for seeping this a secret any longer.

The croakers and grumblers will ask, how is this? Why have we abandoned a post that has cost us such a treasure in blood and money to attain? Why have we given up a country that has cost us a year's campaign and thousands of valuable lives? Are we forced to do so? Are we unable to hold it? I say we are not forced to give it up, either through want of provisions or force; but Atlanta has lost its importance in a military point of view. It was the centre of a network of railroads connecting the South, Southwest, and North. It was the great arsenal, foundry, and rolling stock depot of the rebellionn. All these are destroyed. All the factories, mills, and foundries from Chattanooga to Atlanta, and several miles beyond; are destroyed, the railways gutted, torn up, and the iron put be-yond use or brought to the rear. Therefore Atlanta is no longer of military importance. For miles the country around it has been made such a waste as to preclude the possibility of the rebel army again occupying it. Had we remained there all winter, Hood and the rebel cavalry would hang around us, harass our communications, but fly before our army. This they have been doing lately; this they would continue to do. Sherman's active mind scorns such petty warfare. He has struck out a bold course that will astonish the world; that will make Beau-regard and Hood gnash their teeth in despair, and give up their raiding campsign in disguet.

In the mean time have patience; give events time to de-relop themselves. For weeks it was whispered around Atlanta that the Gate City—alas, the Gate City no more, for it lies fallen as Babylon—was about to be evacuated. The railroads commenced transporting Government stock to the North, and Government works were stopped. What was but a rumor at first soon became a certainty, and a har-rowing scene of confusion and fright followed. Those of the citizens who had not left with the first exodus were now atraid of being abandoned to the tender mercies of the ebels. The depot presented a scene of confusion and sufdied together with their sole earthly stock. Men, who were almost millionaires a few years since, had to fly with-

out a dollar in their peckets.

Atlanta is no more. The Babylon of the South has fallen, the voice and hum of busy industry have ceased. Its splendid houses and broad streets are deserted. The houses are in ruins, the streets will soon be overgrown with grass, and sportive children will play through them and furtively peep through the piles of brick and the ruins of factories, foundries, and railroad depots, peopling the deserted halls with ghastly legends. Atlants, the Gate City of the South—Atlants, the Tyre of Southern trade, is a deserted city of ruins. Her growing grandeur and loveliness are gone. She stands forth a lesson to rebels of the fruits of their wicked efforts to rend their country in

NEWSPAPER CHANGE -It is stated, save the Baltimore Sup, that Thurlow Weed, the veteran editor of the Albany Evening Journal, is now in Washington, negotiating the purchase of the National Intelligencer, which, when acquired, he will make a repository of State papers, statistics, political matters, and current news.

The above is news to the proprietors of the Intelligencer, who beg to say that Mr. Weed is not negotiating for the purchase of that paper, and has no such intention, as far they are advised.

# THE LATE POPULAR VOTE.

The following is a pretty close approximation to the popular vote cast at the late Presidential election through out the United States :

Lincolu and Johnson . McClellan and Pendleton Majority for Lincoln . . . . . .

The President has hardly five per cent. insjority on the total vote. For every hundred votes for Lincoln in the loyal States, there have been cast ninety-five for his Demooratic competiter, and a large part of this excess was given in New England. In the Central, Western, and Border States McCle lan has some ninety-eight votes to Lique In's one hundred, despite all the great advantages possessed by

RESIGNATION OF A STATE SENATOR. William Holland, Esq., the enti-Administration Senator elect from Dorchester county, (Md ) has resigned his seat. In his letter of resignation to Gav. Bradford, he says:

"Circumstances beyond my control will make it extremely inconvenient for me to serve in that capacity. This resignation of Mr. H. is important, from the fact that his party had earried the Senate by a majority of two, and should a member of the opposition party be chosen in

# A GROSS ASPERSION CORRECTED.

his place, the Lieutenant Governor, under the new Con-

stitution, would have he casting vote.

The following paragraph from the Albany Argue has been brought to our notice by a friend of Gov. SEYMOUR. and we cheerfu'ly give it a place:

From the Albany Argus. A special Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune, under date of November 16, has the following:

"The petty malignity of Horatio Seymour has ecopped New York Heavy Arrillery, was lately promoted for meritorious conduct. He was summoned as a witness for the Government in the North case and compelled to testify. For obeying this summons Gov. Seymour has revoked his commission. It is quite possible there is sagacity and patriotism enough in the War Office to thwar; this petty spite of the expiring reptile.

The above statement is false in every particular. There is not even the shadow of truth upon which to found a story so unjust and malicious. The Colonel of the Sixth New York Heavy Artillery, J. Howard Kitching, recommended Capt. Palmer for promotion some months since, but after the last battle in the Shenandoah Valley withdrew his request in favor of Capt. George C. Kibbe, who had won the honor intended to be conferred upon Palmer by gallant and meritorious conduct in the field. The Colonel's order, revoking the recommendation for Palmer was received at the Adjutant General's Office before any action had been taken in the case, and the vacancy in the regiment was filled on the 2d of November by the promotio of Capt Kibbe, in accordance with the Colonel's request The Governor did not issue the commission to Palmer and never saw the papers in the case until after Col. Kitching had changed his mind in favor of Kibbe. The Colonel doubtless made the change upon purely military and the Governor accordingly issued the commission long care of Col. North.

Col. Kitching is now at the Metropolitan Hotel, New York, suffering from a wound received in Sheridan's last Schofield could reach them, succeeded in frightening the attained, and the theatre of war reduced to the Carolina battle. The attempt to vilify Gov. Seymour is charac-